

Message Text

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CINCPAC

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 0628

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TAGS: PFOR, MY, US UK, CE, AS, IN

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL REACTION TO DIEGO GARCIA EXPANSION

TRANSLATION OF EDITORIAL QUOTE BASE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN UNQUOTE
FROM FEB 7 UTUSAN MALAYSIA, MALAY LANGUAGE DAILY OWNED BY
LEADING UNITED MALAY NATIONAL ORGANIZATION, FOLLOWS:

THE JOINT EFFORT BY AMERICA AND BRITAIN TO BULD A MILITARY BASE
ON THE INDIAN OCEAN ISLAND OF DIEGO GARCIA IS AN ACT THAT IS
PURPOSELY DONE TO BELITTELE THE EFFORTS OF THE NATIONS IN THIS
REGION TO MAKE THE INDIAN OCEAN A FREE ZONE. THE OPPOSITION
VOICED BY MALAYSIA AND INDIA TOWARDS SUCH INTENTION IS APPRO-
PRIATE AND THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS ARE FEELING HURT OVER THE
AMERICAN AND BRITISH ACTION. THE (SUMMIT) CONFERENCES OF THE
NON-ALIGNED NATIONS IN LUSAKA AND ALGERIA APPROVED THE DESIRE
TO MAKE THE INDIAN OCEAN FREE FROM FOREIGN MILITARY DISPUTE.

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THE EFFORT INITIATED BY SRI LANKA REGARDING THIS HAS RECEIVED A

SPECIAL PLACE IN THE U.N. AUSTRALIA AS A NATION THAT UNDERSTANDS AND IS OF THE SAME TYPE AS THE BIG POWERS IS AMONG THOSE WHO SUPPORT SRI LANKA'S PROPOSAL. WE FEEL THAT THE EFFORT TO NEUTRALIZE THE INDIAN OCEAN IS ONE WAY TO SAFEGUARD THIS REGION FROM THE DANGER OF CONFRONTATION OF THE BIG POWERS. BRITAIN, WHO OWNS THE DIEGO GARCIA ISLAND, SHOULD NOT CONTINUE HER MILITARY ACTIVITIES THERE. THERE IS IN EXISTENCE A MILITARY ACTIVITY WITH THE INTENTION OF THE BRITISH AND HER ALLY WHICH WILL DIRECTLY ACUSE THE SUSPICION OF THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA. SRI LANKA ITSELF HAS ASKED BRITAIN TO STOP ITS ACTIVITY. IN ALL FAIRNESS BRITAIN SHOULD STOP ALL ACTIVITIES WITHOUT BEING ASKED. NOW BRITAIN HAS HARMED THE EFFORT OF THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS EVEN THOUGH IT WAS THE DECISION OF HER PARLIAMENT NOT TO BE ACTIVE IN THE AREA EAST OF SUEZ. WHAT IS BRITAIN'S INTENTION IN ALLOWING JERUSALEM TO EXPAND THE BASE? WE CANNOT SEE THIS BEING NEGLECTED BY OTHER PARTIES. THIS WILL LATER ENCOURAGE THE SOVIET UNION TO SEND MORE NAVAL FLEETS TO THE INDIAN OCEAN. SUCH ACTIVITY IS ONE OF THE THINGS THAT IS NOT SUITABLE TO THE AMERICAN DETENTE EFFORT INVOLVING PEKING AND MOSCOW AND THIS WILL DEFINITELY LESSON ALL THE PEACE EFFORTS OF DR KISSINGER. DR KISSINGER'S EFFORTS HAVE CREATED REAL INTEREST. IF AMERICA WERE ABLE TO FOLLOW AND PRACTICE WHAT HE HAS SET DOWN, THE WORLD WOULD BE ABLE TO HAVE PEACE AND GREATER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WOULD RESULT. AMERICA AND BRITAIN SHOULD THINK THIS OVER BEFORE THE WORLD GOES FURTHER IN THIS MATTER. UNDERHILL

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